Message Text

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11

ACTION XMB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

FRB-03 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 OPIC-12 SP-03

CIEP-03 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 L-03 DRC-01 AGR-20 SS-20

NSC-07 /141 W

----- 090771

R 141620Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9847

INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DOUALA

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

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PASS USDOC AND EXIM

E.O. 11652: N/A

 $TAGS\colon ETRD,\, EFIN,\, EGEN,\, IV$

SUBJECT: LANG AFRIQUE SUGAR PROJECT

REF: (A) ABIDJAN 6294 (B) STATE 160559

1. ON AUGUST 10 ABIDJAN-BASED LANG AFRIQUE OFFICIAL INFORMED E/C COUNSELOR THAT IN VIEA OF TECHNICAL PROBLEMS, LANG WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT MEET SEPTEMBER 15 DEADLINE. FURTHERMORE, IT WAS TOUCH AND GO WHETHER LANG WOULD EVEN MEET END OF NOVEMBER START UP TARGET. LANG AFRIQUE AND LANG CORAL GABLES REPRESENTATIVES WERE MEETING WITH INTERNATIONAL SYSTEMS AND CONTROLS OFFICIALS (LANG PARENT COMPANY) IN HOUSTON IN ATTEMPT TO SALVAGE IVORY COAST SUGAR REFINERY PROJECT FROM POSSIBLE DISASTER. LANG OFFICIAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COMMENTED THAT ISC HAS HERETOFORE OFFERED LANG MINIMUM OF SUPPORT

AND CURRENT ENDEAVORS ARE LIKELY TO BE "TOO LITTLE TOO LATE."
HE ADDED THAT SEVERAL MONTHS AGO LANG AFRIQUE'S CHANCES OF
OBTAINING SECOND SUGAR REFINERY CONTRACT WERE BRIGHT; HOWEVER,
NOTHING HAS GONE RIGHT SINCE THEN AND LANG STANDS LITTLE OR
NO CHANCE OF OBTAINING SECOND CONTRACT. HE INDICATED THAT LANG'S
CASH FLOW POSITION CONTINUES PRECARIOUS AND THAT LANG IS ENCOUNTERING
DIFFICULTIES IN MEETING CURRENT OBLIGATIONS.

2. COMMENT: SOURCE'S COMMENTS CONFIRM (SEE REFTEL A) THAT LANG'S PERFORMANCE IN IVORY COAST HAS FALLEN FAR SHORT OF GOIC'S AND EMBASSY'S HOPES AND EXPECTATIONS. WHAT "DAMAGE LIMITING" DECISION WILL EMERGE FROM LANG/ISC MEETING REMAINS TO BE SEEN. HOWEVER, ISC OVIOUSLY WILL NEED TO MAKE MAJOR EFFORT TO SHORE UP LANG AFRIQUE'S FALTERING OPERATIONS IN WEST AFRICA IF LANG IS TO REMAIN A VIABLE ORGANIZATION IN THIS REGION. SMITH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: SUGAR, REFINERIES, INDUSTRIAL PLANTS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)

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Disposition Authority: CollinP0
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Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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Subject: LANG AFRIQUE SUGAR PROJECT

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To: STATE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005